Rothenburg
ob der Tauber

Christmas Market

November 21st – December 23rd, 2025

(closed November 23rd, 2025)

The "Reiterlesmarkt" of Rothenburg ob der Tauber

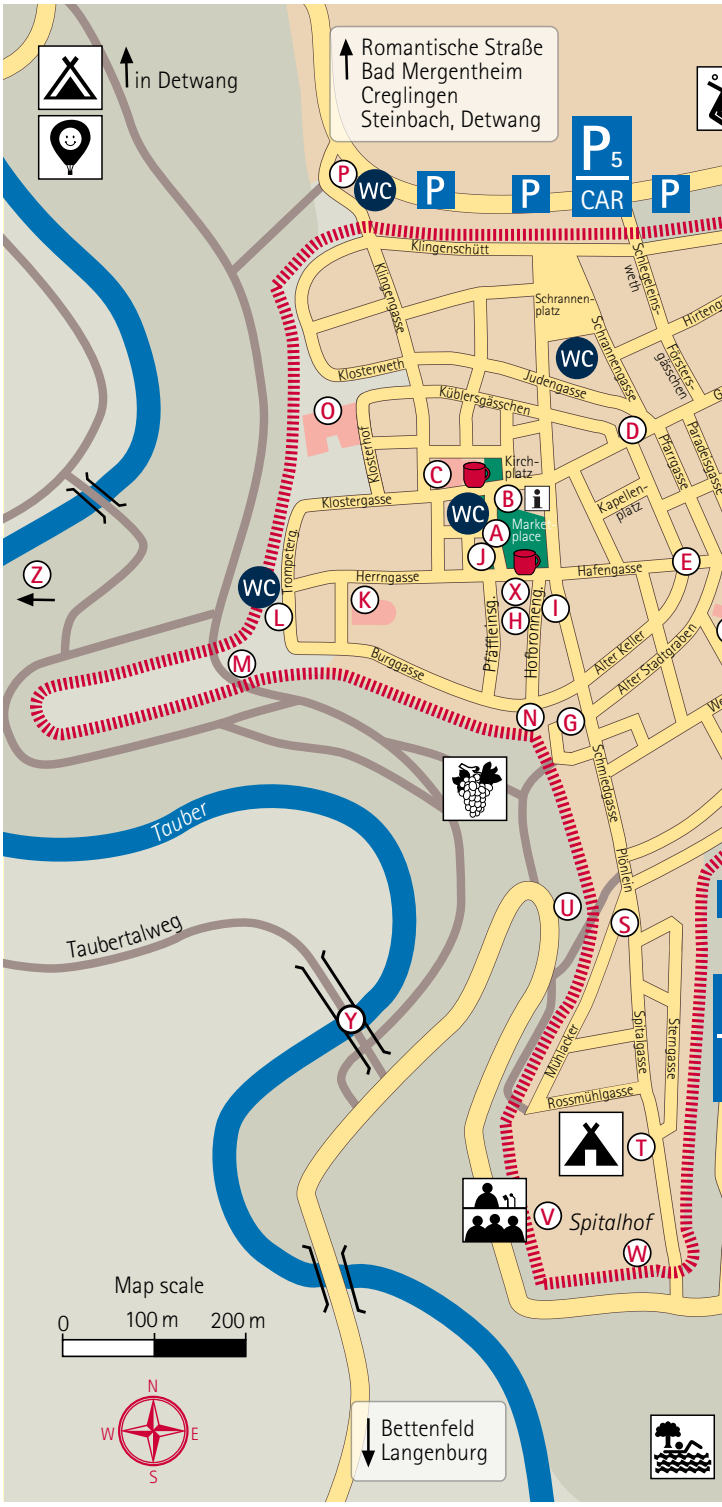
Once a year the medieval town of Rothenburg transforms itself into a fairy-tale winter wonderland. Ever since the 15th century the festive time prior to Christmas (Advent) has been accompanied by a delightful Christmas market. Looking back on over 500 years of tradition little has changed over the years and the historical customs have been closely followed. Many cultural events take place throughout the duration of the Christmas market. The highlight of the event however is the arrival of the "Rothenburger Reiterle" (Rothenburg Horseman) which also gave the market its name. The "Reiterle's" (horseman's) historical origin however stems from dark times long past. Our ancestors were under the believe that he was a descendant of a different world who during the winter months glided through the skies with the souls of people past. Throughout the centuries however the horseman's image changed from a ferocious character people feared and dreaded to a warmly welcomed ambassador of the Christmas season who is now loved by young and old alike. Holding true to traditions the narrow winding streets and picturesque squares around the town hall and its archways are lined with wooden booths, appropriately decorated for the Christmas season.

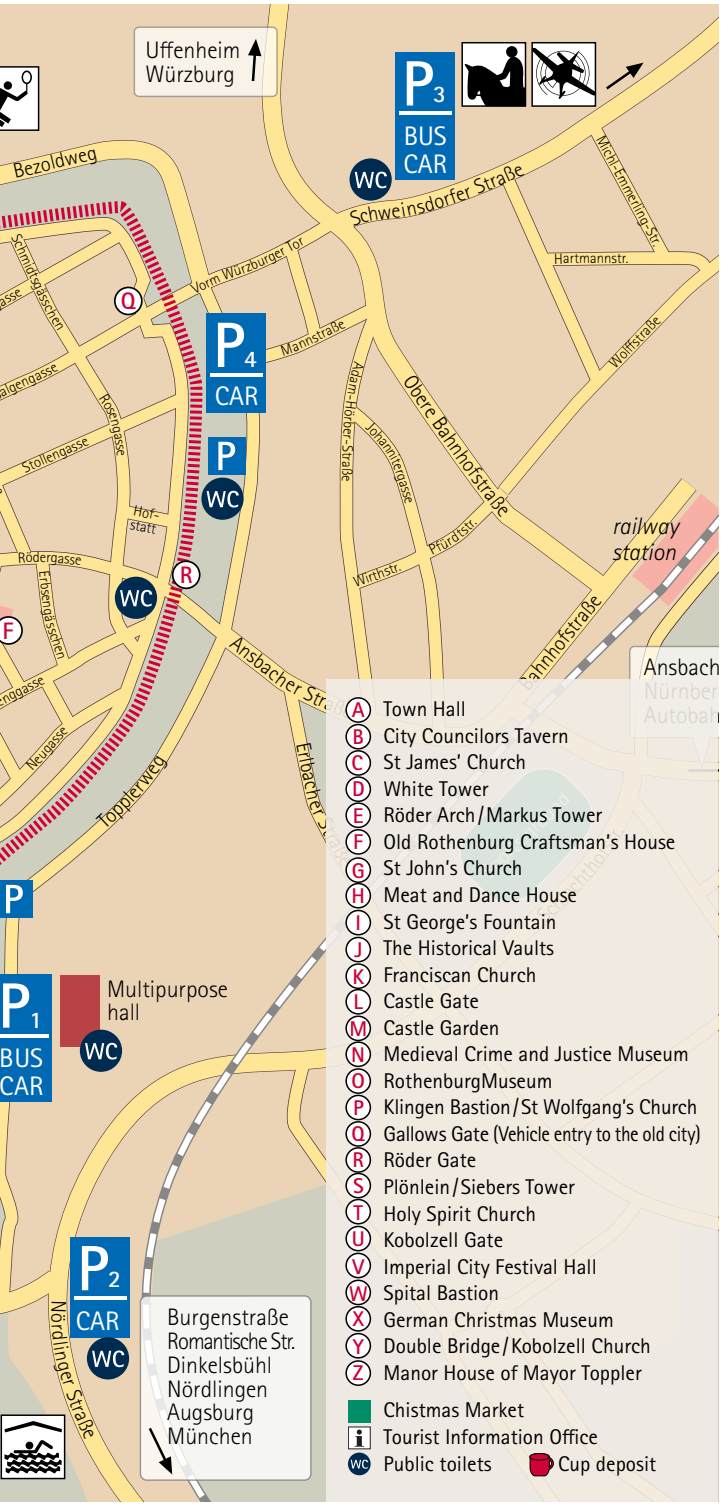
Everything your heart desires can be found at this charming market, may it be the traditional Christmas cookies and pastries or the "Weißer Glühwein" (white mulled wine, indicative to the area). Gadgets and treasures as well as lovingly crafted Christmas decoration can be found in a variety of booths and are sure to serve as a token of appreciation for loved ones at home as well as a welcomed reminder of your time spent in Rothenburg.

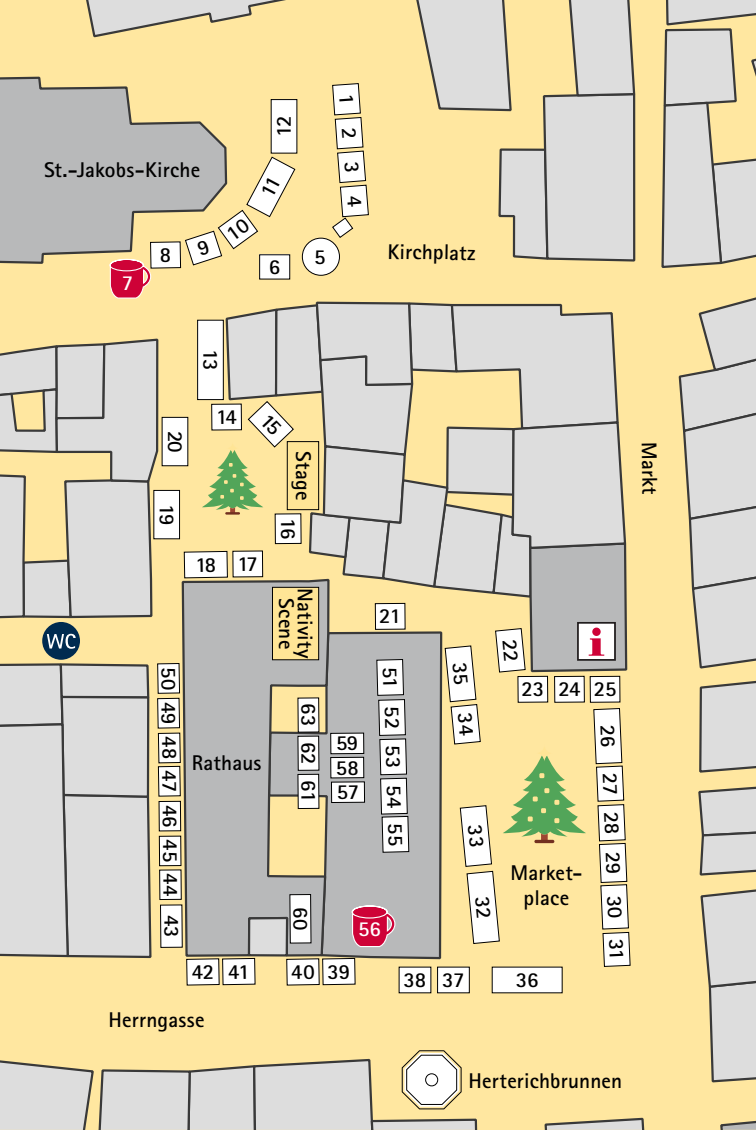
The "Reiterlesmarkt" has grown over centuries and has become a true symbol of a romantic and idyllic Rothenburg Christmas which is also enhanced by the festively decorated city that surrounds it.

NEXT YEAR'S DATES:

Christmas Market 2026:
November 20th – December 23rd
(closed November 22nd)


in Detwang
Romantische Straße
Bad Mergentheim
Creglingen
Steinbach, Detwang
P5
CAR
WC
Klingenschütt
Klingengasse
Schrannen-platz
Schrannengasse
Schiergerns-weth
Hirtengasse
Forges-gässchen
Judengasse
Klosterweth
Kübliersgässchen
Klosterhof
Kirch-platz
Pfarrgasse
Paradiesgasse
Klostergasse
Kapellen-platz
Marke place
Trompeterg.
Herrngasse
Hafengasse
Präffleinsg.
Hofbronnengasse
Alter Keller
Alter Stadtgraben
Burggasse
Schmiedgasse
Plönlein
Tauber
Taubertalweg
Mühlacker
Spitalgasse
Sterngasse
Rossmühlgasse
Spitalhof
Map scale
0
100 m
200 m
N
W
E
S
Bettenfeld
Langenburg


Uffenheim
Würzburg
P3
BUS
CAR
WC
Bezoldweg
Schweinsdorfer Straße
Michl-Emmerling-Str.
Hartmannstr.
Wolffstraße
Schmidtgässchen
Jorm Würzburger Tor
Q
P4
CAR
Mannstraße
Obere Bahnhofstraße
Johanniterstraße
Rosengasse
Stollengasse
P
WC
Hof-
statt
Rödergasse
Fröbengässchen
R
WC
F
Pfurdtstr.
Wirthstr.
railway
station
Ansbacher Str.
Toppler
Neugasse
Toppler Weg
P
P1
BUS
CAR
Multipurpose
hall
WC
P2
CAR
WC
Nördlinger Straße
Burgenstraße
Romantische Str.
Dinkelsbühl
Nördlingen
Augsburg
München
A Town Hall
B City Councilors Tavern
C St James' Church
D White Tower
E Röder Arch/Markus Tower
F Old Rothenburg Craftsman's House
G St John's Church
H Meat and Dance House
I St George's Fountain
J The Historical Vaults
K Franciscan Church
L Castle Gate
M Castle Garden
N Medieval Crime and Justice Museum
O RothenburgMuseum
P Klingen Bastion/St Wolfgang's Church
Q Gallows Gate (Vehicle entry to the old city)
R Röder Gate
S Plönlein/Siebers Tower
T Holy Spirit Church
U Kobolzell Gate
V Imperial City Festival Hall
W Spital Bastion
X German Christmas Museum
Y Double Bridge/Kobolzell Church
Z Manor House of Mayor Toppler
Chistmas Market
Tourist Information Office
WC Public toilets
Cup deposit



Stalls at the Christmas market

1 Christmas cocktails, coffee (Mucho Amor – Wholehearted Events)

2 Hornware (Ingo Nowotka)

3 Wool products (KüstenAdel)

4 Snowballs (Diller Schneeballenträume)

5 Carousel (Ralf Kauffmann)

6 Chestnuts (Erika David-Domokos)

7 Cup deposit

8 Leather goods, Jewelry (Diaz Molinaro)

9 Creperie, punch, coffee (Stefan Wentzl)

10 Honey, wooden bowls (Kelly Arts)

11 Woodcarvings, wooden goods (Sonia Demetz)

12 Snacks, mulled wine (Ralf Kauffmann)

13 Snacks, sausages (Hahn Zelt & Catering GmbH)

14 Wooden puzzle
(Moshiki GmbH)

15 Steaks, sausages, mulled wine
(Kgl.-priv. Schützengilde 1374)

16 Mulled wine, punch, Kir
(Hotel Roter Hahn)

17 Jewelry, pearls
(Perlkönig GmbH)

18 Snacks, mulled wine
(TSV-Handball)

19 Stocking wool, yarn
(Firma Volker Schönemann)

20 Roasted almonds, sweets
(Weigmann Süßwaren)

21 Bunzlauer Ceramic
(Manfred Marx)

22 Lanterns, wind chime
(ISB Michael Blank)

23 Gifts, Christmas decoration
(Reeb-Cristallerie-GmbH)

24 Gingerbread, "Stollen"
(Eckstein GmbH)

25 Mead, Beer
(Johannes Wittmann)

26 Snacks, mulled wine
(Rothenburger Festwirte Gemeinschaft)

27 Quince mulled wine, vegan sausages
(Evang.-Luth. Dekanat Rothenburg)

28 Handicrafts, writing instruments
(Johannes Wittmann)

29 Minerals, fossils, jewelry
(Rüdiger Hesse)

30 Snowballs & Sweets
(Trautmann Keller Schaustellergeschäfte)

31 Charity
(Ehrenamtsbude)

32 Snacks, mulled wine
(TSV Hauptverein)

33 Christmas articles
(Käthe Wohlfahrt)

34 Wool jackets, wallets
(Roland Jung)

35 Snacks, mulled wine, pretzels
(Eduard Wentzl)

36 Snow globes, bird houses
(Wolfgang Stiegler)

37 Punch, burger
(Franken Knights e. V.)

38 "Baumstriezel" (Szeifert)

39 Mulled wine, Sparkling wine, snacks (Weinstube "Zur Höll")

40 Irish coffee, rum, whiskey, mulled gin (Rothenburger Festwirte Gemeinschaft)

41 Nutcracker, Christmas pyramids
(Günter Lange)

42 Backpacks, purses, belts
(Leis Lederwaren)

43 Pizza, mulled wine
(Pizzeria – Restaurant Hallenbad)

44 Gin, Liquor
(Craft Circus GmbH)

45 Scarfs, caps, gloves
(Helga Bürstlein)

46 Mulled champagne, hot quince juice (Oliver Langer)

47 Christmas stars, light strings
(JustStars – Heimat Berlin Mücke GmbH)

48 Chocolate (Schokomell GmbH)

49 Vegetarian snacks
(Siegmund Heimerl)

50 Cashmere products
(Mart Myadag)

51 Handmade soaps and creams
(Das Seifenkistel)

52 Olive wood goods from Bethlehem
(Naim Shahwan)

53 Leather- and wood goods
(Laura Kuno)

54 Rolling pins, wooden stamps
(Jacek Padol)

55 Goods from Scotland
(Der Schottenladen)

56 Cup deposit

57 Coffee beans, liquers
(Stefan Gögelein)

58 Handmade Fashion
(AnRa-Mode GmbH)

59 Glass beads, jewelry
(Christiane Dorn)

60 Hosiery
(Steven Bürstlein)

61 Silk scarfs
(Siyam Impex House)

62 Mulled wine
(Glocke Weingut und Hotel)

63 Honey, Cosmetics
(Josef Konrad)

Daily events

11.00 am	Market-Square: English Guided Tour (until Dec 21st)
4.30 pm	Christmas Market: Santa Claus visits the Christmas Market (until Dec 23rd)
5.00 pm	Christmas Market: Illumination of the new advent window (Dec 1st –Dec 23rd)
5.30 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert (Nov 29th until Dec 23rd)
8.00 pm	Market-Square: Guided Tour with the Night Watchman (except Dec, 24th to 26th, 31st)

Daily exhibitions

Christmas Market: Nativity Scene
(during the opening hours of the Christmas Market) and at the St James' Church, St. John´s Church, Holy Spirit Church

Medieval Crime and Justice Museum, Burggasse 3 – 5
OPENING HOURS: daily from 11 am – 4 pm
(December 24th and 31st from 10 am – 1 pm)

"Treasure and treasure hunting" in law and history
until December 2025

RothenburgMuseum, Klosterhof 5
OPENING HOURS: during the Christmas Market:
10 am – 4 pm (closed December 24th and 31st)

"The Weapons of a Reichsstadt"
until December 2025

»Genießen ob der Tauber«
Culinary Week (November 21st – 27th)
Six restaurants participating in the "Genießen ob der Tauber" quality initiative will offer an exclusive wine tasting experience featuring three Franconian wines. 12,50 € p. p.
Restaurants: Italia, Ratsstube, Gasthof Schranne, Hotel Rappen, Hotel Eisenhut, Landhaus Lebert

Villa Mittermeier Michelin Restaurant
(November 21st – 27th)
At the Michelin-starred Villa Mittermeier, guests under 30 can enjoy an exclusive tasting experience.
For 95 €, young food enthusiasts get a flavorful glimpse into the world of gourmet dining.

Program

Friday, November 21st

11.00 am	Christmas Market: Opening of the Christmas market booths
05.00 pm	Christmas Market, Stage: Concert with the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra
06.00 – 10.00 pm	Long Night of Museums: German Christmas Museum (Herrngasse 1), RothenburgMuseum (Klosterhof 5) and History Museum with Town Dungeon (Lichthof Rathaus), Combo Ticket: 10 € p.p.
06.00 – 10.00 pm	Late Night Shopping in the old town of Rothenburg, participants: www.stadtmarketing-rothenburg.de

Saturday, November 22nd

05.00 pm	Christmas Market, Stage: Concert with the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra
08.00 pm	Café Lebenslust, Kirchgasse 5: live music

Sunday, November 23rd

In observance of Totensonntag (Remembrance Sunday), a traditional "quiet holiday" in Germany, the Reiterlesmarkt (Christmas Market) will remain closed on this day.

11.30 am	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Sunday Brunch, (Ticket: www.hotel-eisenhut.de)
03.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Concert for Eternity Sunday – Trumpet & Organ, admission free
05.00 – 06.30 pm	Franciscan Church: Experience music and silence by candlelight

Monday, November 24th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
05.00 pm	Christmas Market, Stage: Concert with the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra

Tuesday, November 25th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
05.00 pm	Christmas Market, Stage: Concert with the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra

Wednesday, November 26th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
05.00 pm	Christmas Market, Stage: Concert with the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra
07.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: Charity Event – Classic Film Night: "Die Feuerzangenbowle"

Thursday, November 27th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
05.00 pm	Christmas Market, Stage: Concert with the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra

Friday, November 28th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
05.00 pm	Opening of the Christmas Market by the Lord Mayor and the Rothenburg City and Youth Orchestra
06.00 pm	Christmas Market: Trombone choir concert

Saturday, November 29th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
04.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble
06.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): 30 minutes organ music, admission free
06.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble

Sunday, November 30th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
11.00 am	Balcony of the town hall: Christmas concert
from 11.30 am	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Christmas Brunch (registration: www.hotel-eisenhut.de)
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
from 03.00 pm	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Piano music
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Advent concert, admission free

Monday, December 1st

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Tuesday, December 2nd

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Wednesday, December 3rd

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
04.30 pm	Old town: Light parade of the pupils of Rothenburg – welcome speech by the Lord Mayor and the "Reiterle"

Thursday, December 4th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Friday, December 5th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Guided tour with Christmas music, admission free

Saturday, December 6th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
03.00 pm	Franciscan Church: Musical Advent Devotion with "Flauto dolce", admission free
06.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): 30 minutes organ music, admission free
07.00 pm	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): Christmas Concert with Hannah & Joshua - An evening of heartfelt music to arrive, unwind, and ease into the Christmas spirit. Admission free.

Sunday, December 7th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
from 11.30 am	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Christmas Brunch (registration: www.hotel-eisenhut.de)
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
from 03.00 pm	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Piano music
05.00 pm	Franciscan Church: Musical service, admission free
05.00 pm	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): Performance by the church choirs from Detwang, Heilig Geist and Neusitz, admission free

Monday, December 8th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Tuesday, December 9th

04.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble
from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
06.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble

Wednesday, December 10th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Thursday, December 11th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Friday, December 12th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Guided tour with Christmas music, admission free
06.00 pm	Christmas Market: Trombone choir concert

Saturday, December 13th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Johann Sebastian Bach – Christmas Oratorio (Cantatas I – III). Performed by the Ansbach Chamber Orchestra, the St. Jakob's Choir, and soloists. Admission: 18 € p. p.

December 12th – 23rd, 2025

Castle Garden – "Winterglühen"

alternative Christmas Market
with illumination,
music and culinary delights.

Opening hours:
to be announced

www.formatf.de

Sunday, December 14th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
11.00 am	Balcony of the town hall: Christmas concert
from 11.30 am	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Christmas Brunch (registration: www.hotel-eisenhut.de)
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
from 03.00 pm	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Piano music
04.00 pm	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): "A celtic Christmas Concert" with Andy Land, Admission from 15 € p. p.
05.00 pm	Franciscan Church: Musical Service, admission free

Monday, December 15th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Tuesday, December 16th

04.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble
from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
06.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble

Wednesday, December 17th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
05.15 pm	Christmas Market: Rothenburgs bakers present their gingerbread house

Thursday, December 18th

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Friday, December 19th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
04.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble
05.00 – 07.00 pm	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): an invitation to silence by candlelight, admission free
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Guided Tour with Christmas music, admission free
06.00 pm	Christmas Market: Performance by the Alphorn Ensemble

Saturday, December 20th

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
03.00 pm	Franciscan Church: Musical Advent Devotion with "Loser Haufen", admission free
06.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche: 30 minutes organ music, admission free

Sunday, December 21st

from 11.00 am	Christmas Village, Herrngasse 1: Personalised ornaments by Gosbert Stark
from 11.30 am	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Christmas Brunch (registration: www.hotel-eisenhut.de)
02.00 pm	Christmas Market: Brass band concert
from 03.00 pm	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Piano music
05.00 pm	Franciscan Church: Musical service

Monday, December 22nd

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden

Tuesday, December 23rd

from 04.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8: "Blue hour" in the Christmas Garden
07.00 pm	Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8 : Concert "Christmas meets latino"
from 08.00 pm	Café Lebenslust, Kirchgasse 5: live music

Wednesday, December 24th

Lutheran Service

11.00 am	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): Service for families
03.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Service for families
04.30 pm	Franciscan Church: Youth-Service
05.00 pm	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): Service
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Service with music
06.00 pm	Church of St. Peter and Paul, Detwang: Service
10.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Service

Catholic Service

04.15 pm	St. John´s Church: Service for families
10.00 pm	St.-John´s Church: Service

Thursday, December 25th

from 11.30 am	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: Christmas Brunch (registration: www.hotel-eisenhut.de)

Lutheran Service

05.00 pm	Spitalkirche Heilig Geist (Holy Spirit Church): Service with trombone choir

Catholic Service

10.30 am	St. John´s Church: Service

Friday, December 26th

Lutheran Service

09.30 am	St.-Jakobs-Kirche: Service with choir

Catholic Service

10.30 am	St. John´s Church: Service

Wednesday, December 31st

07.30 pm	Hotel Eisenhut, Herrngasse 3 – 5/7: New Year's Eve Party with DJ & Live Piano, Tickets available at: www.hotel-eisenhut.de
from 08.00 pm	Market Square: New Years Eve Celebration "Silvesterfunkeln"
10.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Organ concert, Admission: 12 € p.p.

Lutheran Service

03.00 pm	Church of St. Peter and Paul, Detwang: Service
05.00 pm	St.-Jakobs-Kirche (St James): Service with choir and trombone choir

"Christmas Markets" in Hotels and Restaurants

Café Lebenslust, Kirchgasse 5
"Winterluke" in the inner courtyard with mulled wine, beer and cocktails
Opening hours: to be announced
www.lebenslust-rothenburg.de

Landwehr-Bräu am Turm, Spitalgasse 1
"Glühgarten" with mulled wine and culinary delights
Opening hours: to be announced
www.landwehramturm.de

Hotel Reichsküchenmeister, Kirchplatz 8
"Weihnachtsgarten" with mulled wine, hot cocktails and tarte flambee
During the Christmas Market:
daily from 4 pm to 10 pm
www.hotel-reichskuechenmeister-rothenburg.de

Rothenburg
ob der Tauber

Rothenburg Tourismus Service
Marktplatz 2 | D-91541 Rothenburg o. d. T.
Phone +49 9861 404800 | info@rothenburg.de
www.rothenburg.de

Credits: Publisher & Copyright: Rothenburg Tourismus Service, Layout: www.oe-grafik.de, Cover image: W. Pfitzinger, Photos: W. Pfitzinger, F. Respondek, Dieter Balb, RTS, www.pexels.com: George Dolgikh, www.envato.com: natika; Evgeny Karandaev; eAlisa, Print: Rainbowprint GmbH, 09/2025, Subject to change